

The Spire

The Federated Church Newsletter

United Church of Christ  An Open and Affirming Congregation



From the Desk of Rev. Hamilton...

Dear Friends,

As I prepare to retire at the end of this month, with my last Sunday on October 27, I anticipate this time of saying goodbye with such mixed feelings. I have such immense gratitude for you, the people of Federated Church. There will be other opportunities in coming weeks for me to say what's most on my heart and mind. For this moment, let me say simply: Thank you!

One of the dimensions of my retirement that people mention most to me is their occasional befuddlement about the need for me to separate myself from Federated. I write this having just come from a conversation with a colleague of mine at a nearby church who is also retiring this fall. We both lamented the pain of the separation, and at the same time affirmed its need. In removing ourselves from the life of the churches we've served, we will be doing what needs to be done in order for our successors to establish their own relationships with you. In the same way that you didn't know me at all when I arrived in Chagrin Falls, and yet we have developed deep and loving bonds, so I need to leave so you can do the same with my successor.

What will undoubtedly strain me, and may strain you, as well, is that that separation is in no way a forgetting of you or a falling out of love with you. On first glance, that separation may seem cold and unfeeling—"Why doesn't he call me when my mother is on death's door? Why doesn't he show up at my spouse's memorial service?" I can imagine some of you may react that way. What you should know, though, is: I will always love you for the people and church that you are; you have a place in my heart that will never be usurped.

It is also true, though, that, in accordance with tradition and the minister's code of ethics, it is vital that former pastors truly leave their congregations and not be involved in the worship or pastoral care of the church in any way. Cold and unfeeling though it may at first seem, I will not be attending worship services, nor memorial services, nor weddings of church members and friends. Nor will I be engaged in the pastoral care that has connected you and me in a variety of ways. Not because I don't care—the truth is I very much *do* care—but because for the ministry of the church to thrive, one pastor must leave so another may come. I will say it again: this is not because I don't love you—the truth is I love you very much. I leave because I love the church and its ministry too much to interfere with your relationship with your next pastor.

When my predecessor, Dave Norling, left Federated, he made a clean break. His departure let me become your pastor. He humorously begged the church, saying something like, "If you love me, if you ever loved me, if there's even a smidgen of a possibility that you might love me, do not ask me to engage in pastoral activity with you." I am asking the same thing. I trust that, if there's a part of us that doesn't fully understand the reasons now, it will someday become clear.

Thanks be to God for Federated Church, for its many ministries, and for all that it is and will be!

Yours in Christ,



From the Desk of Operations...

This fall has launched the search for a new Senior Pastor for Federated Church. The plan is to have a full-time, settled Senior Pastor in place following the one-year interim period which will begin upon Hamilton's retirement. The Transition Committee, appointed by the Church Council, has interviewed candidates for the Interim Pastor position and is nearing a decision. They have also developed criteria for members of the Senior Pastor Search Committee and have accepted nominations from the congregation throughout the month of September. The full list of nominees and recommended slate will be shared with the Church Council at its October meeting, and the Council will bring a recommendation to the congregation at a Special Called Congregational meeting on Sunday, October 6. A verbal vote of the congregation will approve the slate. The following timeline outlines the upcoming activities:

October 1: Church Council is presented with a slate of names for the Senior Pastor Search Committee; will vote to recommend slate to the Congregation

October 6: Special Called Meeting of the Congregation to approve the criteria and slate of names for the Senior Pastor Search Committee

November 1: Interim Pastor begins one-year Ministry Covenant at Federated

November – June: Search Committee works to discern God's call for the new Senior Pastor of Federated

If you have questions about this process or nominations for the Senior Pastor Search Committee, please contact Jeff Miller at jeffrey.miller@parker.com or text or call 440-318-4982.



Federated News & Info

Worship Themes for October 2024:

"Ministry, the Church, and the God Who Makes It All Possible"

October 6, World Communion Sunday

Psalm 8

"A Little Lower Than God"

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

October 13

Hebrews 4:12-16

"Receiving Grace and Mercy"

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

October 20

Mark 10:35-45

"Greatness in Servanthood"

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

October 27, Rev. Throckmorton's Last Service

Psalm 126

"God Has Done Great Things"

Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton preaches

Worship Every Sunday 10:00 AM

In-Person at Federated Church

or Online on our YouTube Channel:

[TheFederatedChurch](#)

November Spire Deadline

Do you have something you'd like to see in the November Spire?

Please email your information to communications@fedchurch.org

by **Tuesday, October 15th**

In Memoriam

Recognition of those who have passed recently.

A farewell to friends; May God welcome them with open arms.

PASTORAL OFFICE HOURS

Need to see a pastor? Our Pastors have Standing Office Hours. We are here for you!



Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton
Senior Pastor

Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-5PM

P: 440.247.6490 x100

E: hamthrock@fedchurch.org



Rev. Betsy Wooster
Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Office Hours: Mondays 1-4 PM

P: 440.247.6490 x101

E: bwooster@fedchurch.org

'Extravagant E-Welcome'

Please like, share, and subscribe to our



www.facebook.com/TheFederatedChurch



www.instagram.com/federatedchurch

Women's Ministries

Circle will meet on the third Monday in October at 1:00 pm in the Lower Level Meeting Room. We will be making toiletry bags and cards for the veterans at Federated Church. For more information call Lynne Kessell at 440-487-9104.

Sit & Stitch continues to meet every Thursday from 10 am to 12 pm in Room 304.

Helping Hands will gather on October 21st at 1 pm in the Lower Level Meeting Room.

We're always looking for **Bakers for Loaves & Fishes**. If you can make some homemade cookies, please contact Lynne Kessell.

For more information contact Lynne Kessell,
lynnekessell@gmail.com.



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Fellowship Treats

Federated members take turns bringing treats for Fellowship Hour each Sunday, as scheduled by the Congregational Care Commission. Of course, anyone is welcome to bring treats at any time!

Please bring ready-to-serve treats in disposable containers. Healthy food choices are especially welcome. *Please no nuts*. Thank you for helping to make our Fellowship time delicious and enjoyable!

October 6– last names beginning with H, I, J, or K

October 13– last names beginning with L or M

October 20– last names beginning with N, O, P, Q, or R

October 27– last names beginning with S or T



Rev. Betsy's Spiritual Formation Corner

Rev. Betsy's Spiritual Formation Corner

Don't Miss Fed Talks and Wondrous Wednesday on October 16th with Mary Senechal!

Join us to hear about the ways in which God has nurtured Mary's life of faith, and how, in turn, Mary's life and spirit have nurtured so many of our lives over the years. We give thanks to God for the life of faith that we all have shared.

Mark Your Calendar for Wondrous Wednesday Dinner and Our Fall FED TALKS Story Time with Mary. Dinner is at 6:00pm, Story at 7:00pm.

Remember: Sign up for dinner in advance at <https://fedchurch.org/events> or at [Wondrous.Wednesday.com](https://wondrous.wednesday.com)

You are welcome to attend for story time only and do not need to sign up to attend story hour. After dinner, sit back and relax to hear our beloved Mary Senechal share her faith story with us. After Mary's story, there is time for questions and conversation.

What *IS* FED TALKS, you might ask?

Essentially, Fed Talks is story hour for all ages. FED TALKS is an intergenerational ministry at Federated Church where one or two people, chosen in advance, will share a personal faith story with all who are gathered. FED TALKS will continue to happen quarterly and will be offered in various forums at the church throughout the year. All are invited!

An October Book Study led by Rev. Betsy Wooster

When God Interrupts ***Finding New Life Through Unwanted Change***

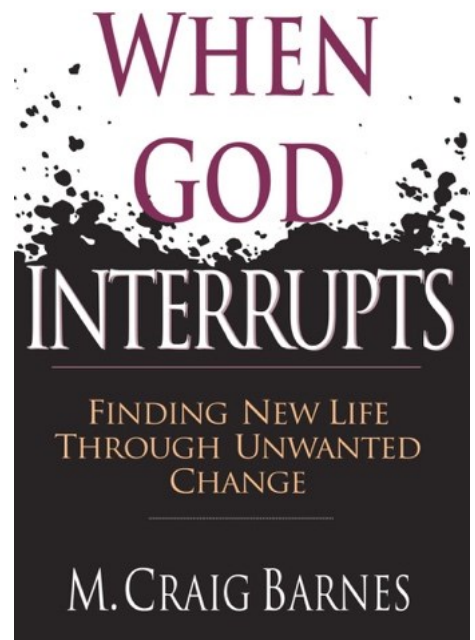
Tuesdays October 8 -29 from 1-2PM in the Lounge

Book can be purchased on Amazon for \$10.00 or in bookstores of your choice.

Join us in October to read and discuss the book ***When God Interrupts***, by Rev. M. Craig Barnes, minister, professor, and former President of Princeton Theological Seminary.

We will engage in discussion about the ways in which God stays with us in the midst of life's interruptions. We'll explore our trust in God's grace to lead us in new directions and offer us new life in the wake of disappointment and unwanted change.

Sign-up on Realm or after worship on Sept. 29th and October 6th, or Contact Rev. Wooster at bwooster@fedchurch.org



REV. HAMILTON IS



Retiring

HELP US BID FAREWELL TO REV. HAMILTON!

IN TRIBUTE TO REV. HAMILTON THROCKMORTON:
THE ARTS AND FAITH

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024
7:00 PM - 9:15 PM, RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

OCTOBER 26TH- ALL CHURCH CELEBRATION AT
THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER

OPEN HOUSE: 4-7 PM; PROGRAM 5:30-6 PM
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED

OCTOBER 27TH- HAMILTON'S LAST SUNDAY
WORSHIP 10 AM- FAREWELL LITURGY;
FELLOWSHIP HOUR IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

In Tribute To...

PERFORMING
ARTS
SERIES
federated
grow

REV. HAMILTON THROCKMORTON

THE ARTS & FAITH

The Federated Church Performing Arts Series invites you to celebrate the incredible career of our retiring Senior Pastor, Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024
7-9 PM, FREE
76 BELL STREET, CHAGRIN FALLS

Join us for a special evening of music, art, and prose in gratitude to Rev. Throckmorton's lifelong support of the arts. The Federated Choir, guest orchestra, and soloists will perform a selection of works that have been particularly meaningful to him. Schubert's "Mass in G" and Dan Forrests' "Jubilate Deo" highlight this concert not to be missed!
Reception to follow!



Tickets can be
reserved here.

More Information
440.247.6490
fedchurch.org/pas

Livestream Upgrades

Over the last month, you may have noticed changes and upgrades to our livestream experience. It has been a work in progress, but our aim is to noticeably improve the online audio and video. Improvements have included much higher camera resolution and better white balance resulting in a crisper picture with less washout. Our livestream sound is more balanced, fuller sound, and includes a closer feel to “live” like being in worship at the church. As of the service on September 29th, a recurring static issue has been resolved!

We want to thank our livestream team for these improvements. Joshua Konow has taken over as the technology director, overseeing the process. Eric Reed has been recoding our video capabilities. Bruce Gigax, in addition to sharing solo music on September 8th, has been learning and improving our soundboard capabilities. Brian Moore and Dave Mast have been running sound on Sundays and assisting our improvements with valuable insights! We are grateful to the Sunday slides and streaming operators that have included Ward Pierson, Barry Biggin, Brooke Strong, and Thea Mozingo. We are excited for the future of our streaming platform and more visual and sound enhancements to come. We appreciate your patience and support.



Federated Gallery

Karen Johns: Current Artist at the Fed!

Are you wondering who created that amazing art downstairs in our Gallery Space? It's Federated's own Karen Johns. This is what you can accomplish during a little over 9 years of retirement. Really! Come and hear her explain about it at the Wondrous Wednesday Free dinner event on November 20th. She has a craft for us, too!



Wanted, Flower Vases, please!



The Angel Flower Ministry rearranges donated Altar Flowers and delivers them after worship on Sundays. Each year we deliver over 250 arrangements. We are starting to run low on suitable vases. **They should be 9" or less in height with an opening that is no more than 3" wide; think bud vase or a bit bigger.** There will be a container near behind the desk in the Lobby (aka Angel Desk) into which you may place the vases. Thank you so much for helping with this ministry.

If you have any questions, please contact Peggie Jo Shinagawa at 216-401-2287 or her email at pjshinagawa@windstream.net.

Legacy Committee



The Legacy Committee Invites you to Planning for the Future

This is a program for those who are interested in learning key points regarding estate planning and preparedness for the third of life—for yourself or for loved ones who are aging.

October 9th from 6–8PM Light Supper Provided by Event Sponsors Program starts at 6:15pm in Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Thea Mozingo at tmozingo@fedchurch.org or [CLICK HERE](#) by 10/2.

Event sponsored by Pauken Law, Hospice of the Western Reserve and The Campus of Anna Maria of Aurora

Inquirers' Class

Are you a visitor or frequent attendee? We invite you to deepen your connection with the Federated Family by becoming a member. Membership offers leadership opportunities, voting rights, and a chance to commit spiritually to our church and its mission. Inquirer's classes for those interested will be held on Nov. 6 and Nov. 13. If you decided to join, you will be doing so on Sunday, November 17th during worship service. Contact Brooke, bstrong@fedchurch.org to sign up, and watch for more details in the Spire and bulletin.

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Mission & Service

St. Paul's Trailer Sunday, October 6th, 9:30-11:30 AM

The St. Paul's Trailer will be open on the first Sunday of the month from 9:30-11:30 AM to receive your donations. Clean clothing, household items, and small appliances are acceptable. Please, no undergarments or TV's.

Contact Marty Culbertson if you have any questions. Mculbert@fedchurch.org

Mission and Service and SJAM



Please leave donations in the Church Lobby

St. Paul's Community Church

The members and Council of St. Paul's Community Church have recently entered a period of discernment regarding future planning and next steps for the church. They have asked us to share a letter detailing this process. Please visit fedchurch.org to read the complete letter. We are with them in spirit and prayer as they enter this journey.



Emergency Mission

*Hurricane Helene left a path of devastation
From Florida up through Tennessee*



CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets


You can help make the road to recovery easier with a CWS Bucket
filled with essential home recovery supplies.

Collecting now through October 13th

Let's Fill 100 Buckets!



Buckets will be provided

Use this check list 
to make sure you buy only
what is needed!

*****each Bucket needs to have
the same items included*****

So, please donate the complete
list of supplies! (or note what
you are missing)

We must follow the supply list exactly

Our Youth will be assembling
These kits and then the kits will
Be delivered to CWS.



CLEANUP BUCKET LIST

Hurricanes, floods and other disasters are happening more frequently. When our neighbors around the world experience these unforeseen circumstances, you can make the road to recovery easier with CWS Cleanup Buckets. These buckets are full of essential home recovery supplies that are needed after a disaster strikes.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- ☐ One 5-gallon bucket with resealable lid (If reused, please scrub clean. Do not use a bucket that has held chemicals of any kind. No screw lid. Advertisement on the outside acceptable.)
- ☐ One 4-8 oz pump spray air freshener
- ☐ Five scouring pads (No stainless steel or pads with soap in them. Remove from packaging.)
- ☐ Seven sponges, including one large
- ☐ One scrub brush (With or without handle.)
- ☐ 18 reusable, lightweight multipurpose dry cleaning towels (No terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels. Remove from packaging.)
- ☐ One 32-64 oz or two 25 oz bottle(s) of liquid laundry detergent
- ☐ One 16-34 oz bottle of liquid disinfectant dish soap
- ☐ One 12-40 oz bottle of liquid concentrate household cleaner that can be mixed with water (No spray bottles.)
- ☐ One package of 36-50 clothespins
- ☐ One 50-100 ft clothesline (Cotton or plastic line.)
- ☐ Five dust masks (N95 particulate respirator dust masks preferred; No surgical masks.)
- ☐ Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (Latex-free, non-surgical. Durable for multiple-use. Remove from packaging.)
- ☐ One pair of work gloves (Cotton with leather palm or all leather.)
- ☐ 20-28 heavy duty or contractor type 30-45-gallon trash bags on a roll (Remove from packaging.)
- ☐ One 6-9 oz bottle of non-aerosol insect repellent (Pump spray bottles must have protective covers. Packs of 10-20 insect repellent wipes also acceptable.)

All cleaning items must be new and all liquid items must be capped and securely tightened. Place all items into the bucket, making sure they are packed securely to avoid damage during shipment. Snap the lid on tight and seal with packing tape.

Please do not enclose cash or checks inside of the kits or the boxes. Please send all monetary donations to: CWS, PO Box 968, Elkhart, IN 46515 or pay your shipping online at cwskits.org/shipping.



CWS

VALUE: \$75

PROCESSING FEE: \$3 per bucket

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Mission & Service

We have an opportunity to share from our bounty and blessings with people who are unhoused

**SJAM and the Mission and Service commission
will be collecting Outerwear for
the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless (NEOCH).
October 6 – November 10**

***Collecting NEW and GENTLY USED (CLEANED)
outerwear for people of all ages***

Needed: men's, women's, and children's waterproof winter coats,
winter hats, waterproof gloves, new winter socks,
waterproof winter boots, scarves, and fleece jackets.

**Boxes for donations will be in Fellowship Hall
(Please place items in the boxes as labeled)**

***Please only donate items that you would be proud to give
to a friend or relative. No cast-off items, please.***

Financial contributions are also accepted and appreciated

Make your check payable to Federated Church writing

“NEOCH collection” on the memo line

You may also donate online via the website or through Realm

Please text Cathy Watterson at (216) 978-1037 or

Patti Lyden at (440) 773-0781 **with any questions**

Thank you for your continued Generosity!

Primetime Fun!



Autumn Trip to The Barn in Smithville

Thursday, October 24, 2024 – 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

What: Enjoy the beautiful Fall scenery as we wind our way to Smithville to The Barn, where we'll have a wonderful lunch. **The salad bar is exceptional!**



And make sure you bring your wallet! There will be shopping at the **Toyrifix** toy store and the **Oak Cupboard**, where they have edibles and accessories for the kitchen and dining. Find some great gifts for Christmas giving!



THE OAK CUPBOARD

A delicious selection of usual and unusual edibles awaits in this old-fashioned general store. Throughout the year The Oak Cupboard offers various "sampling weekends" where products are demonstrated and available for sampling. In the past we have featured chocolate making, bread machines, holiday baking, coffees and dips

TOYRIFX TOY STORE

This store is filled with toys for tots, teens & and beyond. Play areas are featured throughout and hands-on experimenting is encouraged! Toyrifix holds many special events during the year.



Time: The van will leave the FLC at 10:00 AM.

Reservations: Register by REALM or call 440-247-6490 and leave message for Brooke Strong **by Oct. 18**

Lunch: On Your Own

Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation

Social and Environmental Justice (SJAM) News

The mission of the Social Justice Advocacy Ministry is to be a voice and witness to God's love for all people and creation and to advocate for justice for those who are marginalized, discriminated against and denied their inherent rights as children of God and citizens of our nation and world.



Next SJAM Meeting: October 20, 2024 at 11:30 at Bell Street in the Lower Level Meeting Room Or join by Zoom using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83595558354?pwd=U1VxZU5SZ0NjcEVkbEcxXpsbVlWdz09>

October: Focus on the Children Month

SJAM invites you to faithfully learn about, pray about and possibly take action on social justice issues affecting our children and youth. Below is information on relevant issues, a focus for each week in October.

Week 1: Gun Violence. Gun deaths among US kids increased 50% between 2019 and 2021. In 2021, 46% of all gun deaths among children and teens involved Black victims; 14% of the US under-18 population was Black in 2021. (Pew Research Center).

Resources for information and action steps: momsdemandaction.org; Be SMART for Kids

Week2: Lead Poisoning. 2.9 in 100 Ohio Children have tested with elevated blood lead levels (EBLLs). Lead is a neurotoxin that damages children's brains and bodies and can be destructive to neurological, cognitive and social-emotional abilities. (ohleadfreekids.org)

Resources: ohleadfreekids.org; American Academy of Pediatrics- ohioapp.org; The Center for Community Solutions- communitysolutions.com

Week 3: Poverty. In Ohio, In 2020, 16.6% of children were living in poverty (Children's Defense Fund). 26% of Ohio's children have parents who lack secure employment (The Anne E. Casey Foundation).

Resources: The Anne E. Casey Foundation- aecf.org; Ohio Poverty law Center; The Center on Poverty and Community Development, MSASS, Case Western Reserve University

Week 4: Mental Health. 7 in 10 youth in Ohio juvenile justice systems have mental health problems. 5 in 8 Ohioans age 12-17 who have depression did not receive any mental health care. (NAMI Ohio). Ohio is among 41 states with a severe shortage of child psychiatrists, therapists or social workers (American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry).

Resources: Appalachian Community Grant Program -Governor DeWine (governor.ohio.gov). Children's Mental Health- Improving Access to Care- CDC.

Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation

SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVOCACY MINISTRY (SJAM) OCTOBER MOVIE NIGHT

Join us on **Monday, October 28th from 7:00 - 8:30PM** at **The Family Life Center**, 16349 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls, 44023, for a panel discussion focused on

"How the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Justice System is Failing our Kids."

According to an article in the June 17, 2024 Plain Dealer, *"If interventions fail to disrupt patterns of violence or address issues of neglect, trauma, abuse, mental health or childhood poverty, it can leave youth cycling through the juvenile justice system."*

We will hear from the following experts who are devoted to work on changing the system:

- **Gabriella Celeste, J.D.**, Policy Director, Schubert Center for Child Studies, Co- Director childhood Studies Program, and Adjunct Assistant Professor, College of Arts and Sciences.
- **Denise Shurney**, Co-Chair Social Justice Ministry Olivet Institutional Baptist Church and Co-Chair GCC Youth Bindover campaign
- **Ginger Van Wagenen**, Co-Chair GCCV's Youth Bindover team.
- **Matthew Ahn, J.D.** and Visiting Professor of Law at Cleveland State University.

There will be an opportunity for discussion and Q and A.

Come join us to learn more about this important issue and how we can make a difference!

Questions? email: sjamfedchurch@gmail.com



Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation



JOIN US FOR THESE EVENTS
SPONSORED BY SJAM
OR OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS
Any questions? Email: sjamfedchurch@gmail.com

DATE	EVENT
Saturday, September 28th 3:00 – 6:00 PM Family Life Center	Movie Matinee: “GOD AND COUNTRY” A film that explores the profound intersection of faith and patriotism. Witness a gripping story of personal sacrifice and national identity that challenges the very essence of what it means to serve both God and country. (in collaboration with Racial Equity Buddies and Community Life Collaborative)
Monday, October 28th 7:00 – 8:30 PM Family Life Center	“How the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Justice System is Failing Our Kids” Panel Discussion featuring: Gabriella Celeste, Denise Shurney, Ginger Van Wagenen, Matthew Ahn Q & A to follow presentations.
Sunday, October 20th 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Federated Church	SJAM General Meeting Join us for our monthly meeting in person in lower level classroom, or by zoom. (Check fedchurch.org Calendar and click on link)
Saturday, November 2nd 9 AM – 3 PM The Family Life Center	“Envisioning Hope and Peace: Personal, Community and Country” In this anxious time, you are invited to envision hope and ground yourself in peace. Come experience grounding, meditative practices throughout the day as your schedule permits. At various times Yoga, Guided Meditation, Contemplative Prayer and Reiki will be offered. All day the indoor labyrinth will be available, as well as the calming space of the Hearth Room, with music, drinks, and resources for individual prayer practices.
November, 2024 (Date TBD) Federated Church	Immigration Immersion, a simulated journey based on true stories Come for this inter-active program to get a sense of what immigrants coming to this country are likely to experience. More details to follow

Social Justice Advocacy Ministry (SJAM)

A ministry for action as we live into our call for Care and Justice for all of God's people and creation

Envisioning Hope and Peace: Personal, Community and Country

In this time of uncertainty, perhaps you would like to envision hope & ground yourself in peace.

You are invited to join us:

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Between 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

At the Federated Family Life Center

16349 Chillicothe Rd. (Rt. 306)

Chagrin Falls (Bainbridge)

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Drop in anytime between 4 pm—8 pm.

Come experience grounding, calming, meditative practices throughout the day as your schedule permits. At various times Yoga, Guided Meditation, Contemplative Prayer, and Reiki will be offered. The full schedule will be available soon. Please pre-register for a Reiki appointment. All other sessions are on a drop-in basis.

The indoor labyrinth will be available, as well as the calming space of the Hearth Room, with music, refreshments and resources for individual prayer practices. (Outdoor labyrinth if weather permits.)

Presented by The Social Justice Advocacy Ministry Team of the Federated Church in conjunction with the Community Life Collaborative.

Questions? Contact sjamfedchurch@gmail.com.

For further information, visit:

Please register on: <https://fedchurch.org/events/> or with QR Code:



Generosity Commission

Can We Count On You? Are You All In?

Friends, our Federated Church sits at a crossroad that is at once joyous, celebratory, transitional, transformational, fragile and strong. Our values, our outlook, our defining goals, our central focus on the strong example of Jesus... even our "Federated" name all boldly exclaim COMMUNITY! Our unique faith community requires regular care and feeding from ALL its deep roots to continue our incredible journey.

The Federated Generosity Campaign, appealing for financial pledges, begins in October.

In 2024, we received pledged support from approximately 55% of our member households. Each year's mission and operating budget is generated based solely on these pledged commitments. Our challenge to all members is to move from 55% to 75% for 2025.

This calls on us all to be ALL IN for the future of Federated.

Whether you've been on the fence about pledging or you have been giving but not pledging in the past, we need you. Whether you have never pledged before or have routinely committed a pledge, we need you, whatever amount calls to your heart.

Did you know that we only build a budget or plan for ministries based on what is pledged? Did you know that REALM allows you to pay forward now for your 2025 pledge? Did you know some members apply their annual required minimum distribution (RMD) to their pledge or that the average yearly pledge in mainline churches is between \$200-\$1600? Did you know that pledging has NO stigma...no one hounds you for any pledged commitment to Federated. It's all Grace!

During this year's Generosity Campaign, join us in submitting a pledge to support the wonders of God through Federated and help us meet a participation-challenge, to be the most attractive community for new Senior Pastor candidates to warm to, and to be the most dynamic and thriving community we can be! Together, let's even break through that 75% participation ceiling!

In 2025, we embark on the transition between a known and revered Senior Pastor and an undiscovered Senior Pastor encounter. We embark on engaging new family ministries, renewed and vigorous youth programs, exciting PrimeTime excursions, unbeatable music ministries, enviable outreach and mission programming, incredible social justice initiatives, superb properties which fit this overall 'growth mindset' like a glove, and so much more! These impacts cannot hit the ground running with only 55% of our community.

Are you ALL IN? Can we count on you? We hope you'll join in pledging generously in realizing God's highest dreams for Federated.

Blessings to You, Your Generosity Commission



Youth & Family



Our 2024-25 Confirmation class, mentors and teachers on Commissioning Sunday. We are so proud of these amazing students and look forward to a full year ahead!



Federated Church High School Youth GROUP is now meeting at 11:30 on Sunday!

In an effort to accommodate schedules, we have moved the time that GROUP meets to 11:30 on Sunday's. We will still meet in room CE. (Take the elevator to CE!)

We have lots of ideas for service projects and fun activities and look forward to hearing your awesome ideas too! Make plans to join us on Sunday to get the season started and help schedule the next few months!



**October
2024**

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

Sunday, October 6, 4:30-6:00pm

Posters for Hurricane Relief

Friday, October 11 9:00am-9:00pm

MS/HS Cedar Point with enough interest

*let Emily or Gary know by Oct 7

Saturday, October 19, 10:00am-12:00pm

RePlay for Kids

Sunday, October 27, 1:00-2:30pm

Reverse trick or treat at Hamlet with HS

Wear your costumes!

Youth & Family

Ms. Kristin's



Birth - 8th grade

OCTOBER 2024

What is God Like?

Our new program year is underway and full of learning and serving and fun! In Sunday School, in September, we focused on welcoming all to our church so that they can learn who God is. We also spent quite a bit of time discussing what God is like. Check out our bulletin board in the brown staircase for some of our conclusions and the picture book from which we drew our inspiration.

We are looking forward to:

October 3rd - Day Off VBS

October 19th - RePlay Service Event

October 26th and 27th - Celebrating Rev. Hamilton (no Sunday School)

I love to hear from parents! If you have any questions or comments, feel free to email me at klefeber@fedchurch.org

Federated Church

PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

'24-'25 Season



Saturday, September 14, 2024, 7 PM, FREE

Brian Wilson Plays Beethoven and Chopin

Brian Wilson, pianist and technician



Saturday, October 12, 2024, 7 PM, FREE

**In Tribute to Rev. Hamilton Throckmorton:
The Arts and Faith**

*Featuring the Federated Choir, chamber orchestra,
Federated musicians, and special guests!*



Sunday, December 22, 2024, 4 PM

**The King's Brass:
Christmas Celebration**

Tickets: \$30-\$50. Student tickets: \$10



Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 7 PM

**Voices from the Other Side:
evocative chamber works for cello octet with soprano
CD Release concert in collaboration with the Cleveland
Cello Society and composer Margi Griebeling-Haigh
Tickets: \$25-\$45. Student tickets: \$10**



Saturday, April 12, 2025, 7:30 PM

**Baldwin Wallace Men's Chorus and
University School Glee Club: "Music Within"**

Tickets: \$20-\$40. Student tickets: \$10



**Saturday, May 17, 2025, 6 PM
Family Life Center**

**Sammy Deleon y su Orquesta
(Latin Jazz with a Latin-inspired dinner!)**

Tickets: \$20. Kids 12 and under: \$5

federated
grow



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Tickets can be found at fedchurch.org/pas
Federated Church | 76 Bell Street | Chagrin Falls, OH 44022

Community Partners



What's Happening at the Family Life Center (FLC)?



Allen Garland

Please Give a Warm Federated Welcome!

Welcome **Allen Garland** as the new CLC Facilities Manager. Allen now oversees the property of the FLC and manages all user contracts. He has a passion for the environment and nature and is a wildlife education specialist. He graduated from Hiram College with a major in environmental studies. Stop by the FLC and say "Hi" to the newest member of our CLC Team.

CLC: Ramping Up Sustainable Practices

We're all lit up! The CLC coordinated a **retrofitting to LED** of all 32 driveway and parking lot lights as well as the 9 entranceway ballast lamps, decreasing carbon footprint and monthly costs!

The Community Life Collaborative was awarded an **Ohio EPA grant** to ramp up a comprehensive recycling program with sorting bins inside and out, expanding collection of glass and aluminum, educational signage and awareness-building events about the significance of keeping waste from landfills.

In this anxious time, drop by **Saturday November 6 9:00-3:00** at the FLC for a day of calming. **"Envisioning Hope & Peace: Personal, Community, Country"** will be offered in collaboration with SJAM (Federated's Social Justice Advocacy Ministries). Local practitioners facilitate meditative practices for yoga, reiki, walking a labyrinth and more.

What else is going on?

- Next steps to restoring the church's memorial gardens and grounds: A Federated Team is painting the labyrinth. Then landscapers will plant pollinator native flowers and grasses to encircle the labyrinth. **A BIG THANK YOU** to all who dedicated time and sweat to maintaining the memorial gardens! To join the *Garden Guardians*, contact Anne Burr at aburr51@gmail.com.
- The CLC Board of Directors continue to work with reps from Federated in framing a mutually beneficial relationship while outlining terms for a new Management Agreement.
- Grab a partner & hop 'til you drop at First Saturday Swing Dances with a live band!

The CLC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit collaborating with Federated Church to foster transformation through collaboration for a just and sustainable world. We are proud to be strategic partners with the Federated Church to advance community engagement. To get involved or engage in initiatives, subscribe to CLC email blasts, follow us on social media, or reach out anytime! 440-708-1961.



Community Partners

From The Heartland Conference (UCC) Environmental Care & Justice Network

INSPIRING • CONNECTING • EQUIPPING • SUPPORTING FAITH IN ACTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024

REVIVING HOPE: A CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT FOR ALL GENERATIONS

TEMPLED HILLS
CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER
5724 DURBIN RD
BELLVILLE, OHIO 44813

JOIN THE CONVERSATION...



William Fenton-Jones, Director of Multicultural Ministries
for the East Ohio conference of the United Methodist Church.

Rev. Michael Anthony Howard, Minister of Faith in Action for
the Living Water Association of the Heartland Conference.



Susan Mueller, Lead Climate Hope Campaign Manager
at the National Offices of the United Church of Christ, Cleveland.

Dr. Tim Van Meter, Associate Professor of Practical Theology
at Methodist Theological School in Ohio.



Shema Roberts, Social justice-Theological Studies Student, MTSO.



East Ohio Conference
The United Methodist Church



SCAN TO
REGISTER!



Questions? Email Hank Stonerook at hankstonerook@gmail.com



REVIVING HOPE:

A CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT FOR ALL GENERATIONS

INSPIRING • CONNECTING • EQUIPPING • SUPPORTING FAITH IN ACTION

Saturday, October 12, 2024

TEMPLED HILLS
CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER
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BELLVILLE, OHIO 44813





REGISTER HERE. <https://www.ultracamp.com/info/sessiondetail.aspx?idCamp=1355&campCode=HSK&idSession=474046>

RePlay *for Kids*

because **every** child needs to play



HANDS-ON SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Saturday, October 19th

10 am – 12 pm

Federated Church Fellowship Hall

Ages 12 & up (minors with parent)

FOR EVERYONE – NOT JUST FOR KIDS

Come “play” with toys

and make a difference in the lives of kiddos with disabilities!

RSVP: On Realm or klefeber@fedchurch.org

The mission of **RePlay for Kids** is to increase the availability of toys and assistive devices for children with disabilities. We pursue this mission by repairing existing devices, adapting mainstream toys, designing new devices, and educating families and clinicians.

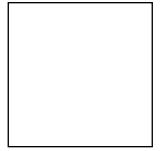


federated

live your faith



76 Bell Street
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022



Contact Us!

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thefederatedchurch](https://facebook.com/thefederatedchurch)

Instagram: @federatedchurch

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OUR STAFF IS HERE TO HELP YOU

CLERGY

Hamilton Throckmorton, *Senior Pastor*
Betsy Wooster, *Pastor of Spiritual Formation*

Administration Staff

Beth Rutkowski, *Senior Director of People and Operations*
Brooke Strong, *Congregational Life Administrator*
Thea Mazingo, *Director of Generosity*
* **Susi Kawolics**, *Bookkeeper*
* **Marty Culbertson**, *Director of Missions*
Jake Magalski, *Properties, Maintenance & Grounds Lead*

Music Staff

Joshua Konow, *Director of Music Ministries*
* **Marcia Snavelly**, *Organist*
* **Pat Haynish**, *Director of Children's Choir*

Children's Ministries Staff

* **Kristin LeFeber**, *Director of Children's Faith Formation*
* **Alex Bell, Lianna Davis** *Childcare*
* **Shawn Bottcher, Emma Bottcher, Sarabeth Rutkowski**
Sunday School Teachers

